**Structuring Your Extended Essay**

The extended essay is a very structured and in some ways formulaic piece of writing that in some ways can almost write itself, especially if the research question is a good one and you have managed to collect data.

The Structure of a Good Paper

1. Abstract – states the research question and outlines how you went about addressing the research question.
2. Introduction – surveys background information and theory related to your research question, in order to give the reader a sense of where your research fits in the larger scheme of the subject being studied.
3. Hypothesis – takes your research question and twists it into a verifiable statement, which can be tested with data.
4. Methodology – explains the methods you will use to collect the data needed to test your hypothesis.
5. Data Collection – Present your data
6. Data Analysis – This is where you can get fancy and apply statistical tests to your data to find relationships and interpret your data in order to understand its meaning.
7. Conclusion – Using the results from your data analysis, was your hypothesis proven or disproven? What is the answer to your research question?
8. Evaluation – Look at the limitations of your research and outline any areas where your results may have been compromised or your investigation could have been improved.

You will find that your methodology and data analysis will require a lot of words. You will not need to pad anything out to get your 4000 words.